

IN THE CLAIMS:

2 3 4 5 6 7 8

9 Please replace claims 3-5, 8-15, 17, 20-24, 29-31, 34-38, 41-46
and 48 with the following amended claims:

1 3. (Amended) The method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein
2 said yellow dye has a colour index number acid yellow 250.

1 4. (Amended) The method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein
2 said material is made from a mixture of fibres of different types.

1 5. (Amended) The method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein
2 said material comprises a mixture of wool and synthetic fibres.

1 8. (Amended) The method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the
2 content of wool fibres in said material is at least 20% by weight.

1 9. (Amended) The method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the
2 content of wool fibres in said material is at least 25% by weight.

1 10. (Amended) The method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the
2 content of wool fibres in said material is at least 40% by weight.

1 11. (Amended) The method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein
2 said weft yarns comprise at least 20% by weight of wool.

1 12. (Amended) The method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein
2 said weft yarns comprise at least 30% by weight of wool.

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1 13. (Amended) The method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein
2 said weft yarns comprise at least 40% by weight of wool.

a 3 1 14. (Amended) The method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein
2 said material is processed in piece form.

(pub B') 1 15. (Amended) The method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein
2 said material is contacted with a partitioning agent.

FOOTNOTES 1 17. (Amended) The method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein
2 said material is treated using a jet-dyeing apparatus.

1 20. (Amended) The method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein
2 said material is contacted with the bleaching agent prior to said material being
3 contacted with said fluorescent dye.

1 21. (Amended) The method as claimed in Claim 15, wherein
2 said material is contacted with the partitioning agent prior to said material being
3 contacted with said fluorescent dye.

a 5 1 22. (Amended) The method as claimed in Claim 15, wherein
2 said bleaching agent is added simultaneously or quasi-simultaneously with the
3 partitioning agent.

(pub B') 1 23. (Amended) The method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein
2 said bleaching agent is an inorganic reducing agent with chelating agents and
3 comprises 30-40% by weight tetrasodium ethylene-diaminetetraacetate and 30-
4 40% by weight disodium disulphite.

24. (Amended) A coloured fabric material obtainable according to the method described in Claim 1.

29. (Amended) The fabric material as claimed in Claim 27, wherein said lightness value is 96 or more.

30. (Amended) The fabric material as claimed in Claim 27, wherein said reflectance value is 125 or more.

31. (Amended) The fabric material as claimed in Claim 27, which exhibits the following characteristics:

- i) a chroma value of 110 or more;
- ii) a lightness value of 97 or more; and
- iii) a reflectance value of 128 or more.

34. (Amended) A white fabric material as claimed in Claim 32, having a lightness value of 92 or greater.

35. (Amended) A white fabric material as claimed in Claim 32, having a reflectance value of 85 or more.

36. (Amended) A white fabric material as claimed in Claim 32, which exhibits the following characteristics:

- i) a chroma value of 5 or less;
- ii) a lightness value of 93 or more; and

5 iii) a reflectance value of 90 or more.

1 37. (Amended) A fabric material as claimed in Claim 27,
2 wherein said material is made of a mixture of fibres of different types.

1 38. (Amended) A fabric material as claimed in Claim 27,
2 wherein said material comprises a mixture of wool and synthetic fibres.

1 41. (Amended) A fabric material as claimed in Claim 27,
2 wherein the content of wool fibres in said material is at least 20% by weight.

1 42. (Amended) A fabric material as claimed in Claim 27,
2 wherein the content of wool fibres in said material is at least 40% by weight.

1 43. (Amended) A fabric material as claimed in Claim 27,
2 wherein said weft yarns comprise at least 20% by weight of wool.

1 44. (Amended) A fabric material as claimed in Claim 27,
2 wherein said weft yarns comprise at least 30% by weight of wool.

1 45. (Amended) A fabric material as claimed in Claim 27,
2 wherein said weft yarns comprise at least 40% by weight of wool.

1 46. (Amended) A sports ball having a fabric material outer
2 surface, said fabric material being a fabric material as defined in Claim 27.

1 48. (Amended) A sports ball having a fabric material outer
2 surface, said fabric material being a fabric material as obtained by the method of
3 Claim 1.